

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities

VINCENT C. GRAY  
MAYOR



AYRIS SCALES  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## THE D.C. COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES PRESENTS

### **BLEND: "RECORDING / RESPONDING TO LOSS AND RECOVERY"**

*An exploration of artistic responses and public perspectives on the ten year anniversary of 9/11*

Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm

Washington, D.C. August 22, 2011—The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCAH) is proud to present Blend: "Recording / Responding to Loss and Recovery" at the Pepco Edison Place Gallery.

In partnership with *The 9/11 Arts Project*, initiated by the Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, **Blend: "Recording / Responding to Loss and Recovery"** was designed to complement the exhibition 'Ten Years After 9/11' co-curated by Helen Frederick and William Dunlap. The exhibition features work by thirty-nine international artists from Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Russia, Ireland, Germany and the United States; each artist bringing their personal perspectives and unique viewpoints to the cultural conversation commemorating the tenth anniversary of events of September 11, 2001.

**Blend** will include live performances by local electric cellist, Wytold, and a collaborative spoken word piece by Regie Cabico and Gary Gowri K., followed by a panel discussion exploring methods and perspectives of healing on the anniversary of 9/11. Panelists include exhibiting artists Brian Counihan, Mike Fay, Jeffrey Kent, Phyllis Plattner, and Matt Pinney; moderated by Helen Frederick. This event is free and open to the public.

"I believe the arts can serve as a catalyst to understand complex issues we face individually and as a community. By presenting these opportunities to District residents, they can experience the power of the arts in a time of healing. DCCAH is truly thrilled to be a part of this collaborative event." says Interim Executive Director, Ayris Scales.

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities' provides grant funds, programs and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities, so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city.

Blend is a vibrant series of events produced by the Commission to engage the District's diverse communities in dialogues and programs that use the arts to intersect and explore today's social issues. Through a variety of venues, voices and values, the Commission will convene local creatives in inspirational and provocative opportunities throughout the city.

For a full list of *The 9/11 Arts Project's* events and collaborators, initiated by Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, visit: [www.911artsproject.com](http://www.911artsproject.com).

To RSVP for this event or for more information, please contact Mary Beth Brown, [marybeth.brown@dc.gov](mailto:marybeth.brown@dc.gov) or 202-724-5613.

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